



TEAM 7 AND TEAM FALCON

A COLLABORATION BETWEEN SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND CAVE CREEK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



About the Program

Transition services for students with disabilities must be rich and diverse. Matching student strengths and interests with career options is critically important to meaningful transition planning. Team 7 and Team Falcons was designed to provide vocational opportunities for students with disabilities that are capable of learning specific job tasks but who need focused instruction on learning and executing the social skills that are necessary to succeed in a job placement. The Team 7/Team Falcons program represents Learning on the Move and is providing vocation-

al training to students with disabilities throughout SUSD and CCUSD and helping students move from school to work.



Benefits to Students

- ⇒ Partnership of students and journeymen providing opportunities for job explorations in their fields of expertise.
- ⇒ Completion of a job portfolio to highlight experiences acquired in high school
- ⇒ Real life application of interview skills and soft skills
- ⇒ Supportive environment for exploring new career options.
- ⇒ Development of practical skills sets associated with different jobs.

Bridges Built with Employment Partners

Quality transition programs in schools are powerful when they connect kids to employers in the community to continue their development.

Partnerships are established with employers to receive students with skills acquired through Team 7 & Team Falcon.

Partners:

- WestMec
- CVS
- Grainger
- Lowes
- Walgreens

CRITICAL REALITIES

- ◆ Individuals with disabilities are often unemployed or underemployed.
- ◆ Lack of "soft skills" is the biggest reason for lack of success in the workplace.
- ◆ In Arizona, 1 in 64 children have been diagnosed with autism according to the AZ Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program.
- ◆ Within the school setting, students can acquire real life skills to prepare for life after high school.

Team 7/Team Falcons Students

Post-secondary planning is a continuous process throughout a student's school career. Interest inventories and career exploration are critical elements in the high school years. Team 7/Team Falcons is a 2 year program traditionally for juniors and seniors. A rotation of job shadowing and job coaches with various professionals throughout school district departments affords students an opportunity to try different jobs. Students rotate each semester through jobs, such as, facilities maintenance, landscaping, cafeteria, copy center, auto, technology and preschool.

Benefits to Districts

- ⇒ Opportunities to energize your employees to make a difference in the lives of kids
- ⇒ Sharing the trades that are critical to the operations of a school or business.
- ⇒ Cost saving potential in hiring student workers at appropriate wages to do summer work or district work.
- ⇒ Partnership of students and journeyman working side by side.
- ⇒ When asked to be role models, employee behavior may improve.

Need to Know More?

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